

Elected claims 1, 2 and 3 (and new claim 5) read on the elected species. Applicants understand their species election is being made solely to expedite examination of the application, and that they are entitled to consideration of additional species upon allowance of a generic claim. Applicants reserve the right to refile claims to the non-elected inventions in one or more future applications retaining the priority date of the present case and the earlier cited priority applications.

III. Status of the Claims

Claim 1 has been amended and claim 5 has been added to better claim the invention. Claims 1-5 are therefore pending.

IV. Support of Amended Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the claim. Support for this claim can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, with particular support being found at least in Claim 1 and the Sequence Listing as originally filed.

New Claim 5 has been added to more clearly claim aspects of the invention. Support for this claim can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, with particular support being found at least at page 15, line 31 through page 16, line 5.

As amended Claim 1 and new claim 5 are fully supported by the specification and claims as originally filed, they do not constitute new matter. Entry, therefore, is respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

The present document is a complete response to the Restriction and Species Election Requirement. Applicants believe that the claims of the instant application meet all of the conditions for patentability and are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early indication of the same is respectfully requested. Should Examiner O'Hara have any questions or comments, or believe that certain amendments of the

claims might serve to improve their clarity, a telephone call to the undersigned Applicants' representative is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

October 7, 2003

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance K. Ishimoto", is written over a horizontal line.

Lance K. Ishimoto

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